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WEATHER.

Oregon and Washington - Fair.

ASTORIA'S IMMUNITY.

Astoria's immunity from large and disastrous fires has been one of her most valuable assets in the past, and it speaks volumina for the general caution of her people in the handling of combustibles and safe-guarding of individual premises against fire; especially in this apartment when the vast percentage of inflammable material in the construction of her stores and homes and public buildings is taken into account; but it must not be thought, for an instant, that such extraordinary exemption is to be ours for all time, nor that it obviates the establishment of more necessary alarm boxes about the city, nor that it furnishes adequate reason for deferring the purchase of any other equipment for fighting fire. The opera house fire comes in the light of a distinct warning. It was successfully handled and the fire confined to the territory of ignition. This may not always be the case, especially in the matter of boxes. The fact that there was no box between the Holden house and the Foster house, made things much more difficult and slower of operation yesterday morning, than would have been the case if the center of the business district had been protected with one or more boxes in that long stretch of territory. One of the chief values of fires is the significant points they raise by their very happening, and the people who are too dense or too economical to make use of the patent suggestions are wholly to blame for subsequent losses. A city of the size, contour and character of Astoria needs the very best equipment known for the purposes of preventing and fighting fires, and while we are on the subject, it may as well be said, first as last, that the telephone office is a poor medium of reliance for the transmission of fire news. Not that the people serving there are unwilling or inexperienced, but the thousands of wires and hundreds of calls involved, offer too many opportunities for the one, fatal failure in that transmission. There is nothing to compare with the independent, reliable automatic fire alarm system, such as every city of this sort should and should have.

EDITORIAL SALAD.

Europe has a population of about 396,000,000, or about one-fourth of that of the whole world. Belgium has the densest population.

Great Britain and Ireland export every year about \$25,000,000 worth of linen goods, of which one-half is shipped to the United States.

A New York State commission says that Sing Sing and Auburn must go, and reports from Albany say that the Capitol is going. These are facts sufficient to set New Yorkers thinking and also doing.

During 1904 Brazil produced nearly 16,000,000 bags of coffee, valued at about \$140,000,000. The United States is Brazil's heaviest customer in coffee.

There are 13,000,000 young men in the United States. One million are church members. 7,000,000 never enter a church and \$5,000,000 go to church occasionally.

A Baltimore man says the ideal income is \$15,000 a year. He has not been talking to the sons-in-law of any life insurance company or he would have raised the figures.

The German Emperor, the King of Italy, the youthful King of Spain, the Queen of Holland, the King of Bavaria and the King of Saxony have never taken the trouble to be crowned.

More than fifty kinds of bark are now used in the manufacture of paper. Banana skins, pea vines, coconut fiber, hay, straw, water, weeds, leaves, shavings, corn husks and hop plants are used for the same purpose.

Mayor Fagan of Jersey City is now charged with being a "peripatetic reformer." It wouldn't be a bad thing, however, if he could infect some other New Jersey politicians with his particular kind of walking typhoid.

Mayor Dunne has awakened from his dream of "immediate municipal ownership," but in case the ordinances he has just signed are approved by the people he now says his plans will be realized in fifteen months. That kind of talk sounds somewhat more probable than the i. m. o. variety.

"Little Tim" Sullivan is reported to have said that he believes the present Board of Aldermen, New York, is a relic of the days of Captain Kidd. Down in Panama the other day an estimable gentleman of the money lending persuasion was asked if his ancestors came thither with Balboa. "No," said somebody. "with Harry Morgan!" Maybe both were right.

France does not believe in having too many irons in the fire at once, and therefore Venezuela's case must wait upon Algeciras. It may, perhaps, be taken for granted that President Castro will lose nothing of what is coming to him, even though he has to wait for it.

And now Chicago steps into the limelight with a case of alleged Beef Trust "tipping." Attorneys who go about distributing money to reporters as "Christmas presents" are rare, and it must be admitted that in the interests of public morality they ought to be still rarer.

Beethoven's grand piano, which was presented to him by his patroness, Princess Lichnowski, is at present in possession of Herr Zach, a Vienna instrument maker. It was offered the other day for sale to the municipality of Vienna, but that city refused to pay the high price demanded, so the owner has determined to send the relic to the United States, where he says, he is certain of obtaining a far higher price.

The Canadian government tried to keep the St. Lawrence open for navigation in the winter time a year ago, and made use of an ice breaking tug like those which have rendered good service in Russian waters. While bucking against ice ten feet thick the propellers of the boat were disabled and she was hauled off for repairs. We haven't heard of her resuming business this season, but she ought to have had a comparatively easy job so far if the experiment was undertaken.

Japan pays this country what it regards as a high honor in sending as its ambassador to Washington Viscount Sinzo Aoki. The viscount is a member of the privy council and of the first class of the order of the Rising Sun, the highest order in Japan. He stands in the first rank of Japanese diplomacy, far outranking Mr. Takahira and even Baron Hiyashi, the present Japanese minister to London.

A dispatch from Columbia says Mrs. Chadwick will be compelled to work at the wash tub during her stay in the Ohio penitentiary. Here is additional evidence of the fact that woman labors under disadvantages in this world. If the lady who wrecked banks and took the savings of other people for her own use were a man she would no doubt be provided with an easy job in the book-keeping department.

John Brisben Walker was the pioneer in the steam automobile business and at one time the factory of the Mobile company of America at Kingsland Point on the Hudson employed nearly 1,000 men. Mr. Walker was warned that the gasoline motor would take the lead in automobiles, but persisted in his devotion to steam, with the result that he soon found himself loaded with losses exceeding \$1,700,000.

OUR FASHION LETTER

All Underwear is Now Most Elaborate in Design.

TRIMMINGS WORKED BY HAND

A Pretty Corset Cover—The Popular Cavalier Hats—Return of the Fluted Trimming—Becomingness of the Ermine Dog Collar.

Turn-down collars elaborately embroidered or exquisitely hemstitched are worn with linen shirt waists made perfectly plain save for a few tucks.

It is smart just now for all underwear to be most elaborate in design, and the materials employed must be of the finest and most expensive order. Real lace, either valenciennes or Irish point, is the favorite adornment. All trimming must be put on by hand, whether lace, tucks or flower designs



GREEN CLOTH GOWN.

worked in embroidery cotton. Nevertheless in spite of all this extravagance there has never been a time when underclothes have been so dainty and attractive.

A particularly pretty corset cover is finished at the top with scalloped points, buttonholed with an open eyelet in the center of each point. Three rows of embroidered eyelets are set below the scallops, through which baby ribbon is run and tied in little bows in front. Similar bows are set all the way down the front. Wider ribbon is run through the beading at the waist and tied in front in a bow with long ends. A frill of lace softens the buttonholed points.

The gown illustrated is of reseda green broadcloth. On the skirt is an attractive braided trimming reaching almost to the knees. The same idea is carried out in the Eton jacket. A natty little tie of black liberty silk adorned with handsome fringe forms the stock and hangs below the jackets in long straight ends.

MILLINERY MELANGE. Cavalier hats of soft felt or velvet turned up at one side and trimmed with handsome plumes are exceedingly graceful and becoming. The crowns are soft and dented, and the brims untrimmed and unadorned.

There is no reason for a woman wearing the absurd little French hats that promised to be so all absorbing



SHIRT WAIST OF FRENCH FLANNEL.

at the beginning of the season, as this is by no means the only smart style of

chapeau. There are large soft hats gaining ground daily with women of conservative tastes.

We have come back to fluted trimming, the old time Richelleu plaitings. This ruffling is nothing but a thin and sheer ribbon that is bought plaited and stitched along one edge to hold the plait in position. The very closest and finest of side plaitings are used rather than accordion plaits. Its possibilities in the hands of a clever dressmaker are endless and charming.

The shirt waist sketched is of fine

French flannel. The tiny vest is trimmed with small buttons and loops of braid. A pointed yoke extends across the back and over the shoulders, meeting a rolled collar of stitched flannel. The leg of mutton sleeves are plaited into cuffs composed of silk and stitched straps.

FACTS AND FANCIES.

It was a French dressmaker who discovered the becomingness of the ermine dog collar and brought it into vogue. It is one of the season's novelties and is applicable to any outdoor garment that does not have a turn-down collar. Decorative buttons and



MOTOR HAT.

little tabs and bows of velvet are used to eke out the points of the upstanding collar.

Turn-down collars elaborately embroidered or exquisitely hemstitched are worn with linen shirt waists made perfectly plain save for a few tucks.

Some of the newest stocks are graduated in height and shaped behind the ears, coming low down in front. Most of them are transparent and boned invisibly. The high, stiff stock, by the way, is going out of favor.

There is no sign of diminution in favor of the white blouse, but it may be noticed that there is a tendency this season to introduce upon it a little color. The crossed overblouse will have, for instance, a yoke of chiffon embroidered with tiny loops and ribbons of a contrasting color, while another favorite idea is to ornament the waist with small buttons or a series of lilliputian bows in some becoming shade.

Prune de monsieur is a new color—something of a dark violet with a dash of red in it.

The winter motor hat seen in the cut is a mighty fine piece of headgear to wear on long rides. It is made of cloth, matching the coat if possible and strapped with snoods.

FRILLS AND FRIPPERIES.

For evening wear some wonderful effects in shot moire are to be seen. Poplin, bengaline and merveilleux silks will also be used throughout the season.

Buttoned boots are taking the place of laced ones, and the newest styles in woman's footwear come in the buttoned varieties.

Among the pretty new materials for blouses is French voile. If trimmed



DEBUTANTE PROCE.

with heavy Irish crochet lace it is indeed a beautiful thing.

Square shoulders are once more in favor, and it seems as if they might as well remain in vogue, since the outdoor athletic girl will continue to develop them whether they are fashionable or not. In cases where the squareness is not quite sufficiently marked a

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Advertisement for J. A. Montgomery, Astoria, featuring a woman in a bathrobe and text: 'That All Important Bath Room. You have often heard people remark "If I were ever to build, I would plan my bath room first and would not put all my money into the parlor with all its finery." That is good common sense sentiment, for the bath room is the most important of all the household. We would like to help you plan your bath room and will gladly quote you prices on "Standard" Ware, the best and most sanitary fixtures made.'

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ASTORIA IRON WORKS

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tiny puffing is introduced to emphasize this effect. At the moment there is a great demand for tortoise shell buckles. They are beautiful, but very apt to break easily.

The debutante dancing frock pictured is of white tulle. The skirt is made fluffy and pretty with a number of ruffles edged with tiny velvet ribbon and headed at the top with a wide band of Milan lace. Ruffles trim the baby waist, the décolletage of which is adorned with a bertha of lace embroidered in a tiny fern design. The short ruffled sleeves have motifs of lace edged with frills of tulle.

JUDIC CHOLLET.

POLITICAL COLUMN.

Announcements of candidates for office will be published in this column at reasonable rates for men of all parties.

FOR GOVERNOR. Republicans of Oregon are hereby informed that I am a candidate for the nomination of Governor at the primaries to be held April 20th. JAMES WITTHYCOMBE.

FOR SECRETARY OF STATE. I hereby announce myself a candidate for the office of Secretary of State, and ask the support of all Republicans. F. T. WRIGHTMAN.

FOR STATE PRINTER. The undersigned announces himself as a Republican candidate for re-nomination for State Printer at the forthcoming primaries. J. R. WHITNEY.

FOR SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION. I hereby announce myself as a candidate for re-nomination for the office

of Superintendent of Public Instruction, and solicit the support of all Republicans at the primaries, April 20th. J. H. ACKERMAN.

FOR ATTORNEY-GENERAL. The undersigned hereby announces himself as a candidate for re-election to the office of Attorney-General, subject to the approval of Republican voters at the primaries. A. M. CRAWFORD.

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